

Community Wellness and Crisis Response Team

TWO-YEAR PILOT PROGRAM

MIKA CELLI, LICENSED CRISIS RESPONSE CLINICIAN

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Commission on Racial and Social Equity

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- ▶ **Top priority for the Commission on Racial and Social Equity**
- ▶ **A police-mental health response team for mental health crises, substance use, and homelessness focused on conflict management, de-escalation, and linking people to supportive services**



A Pilot Program

- ▶ CWCRT pilot program is a collaboration:
 - ▶ San Mateo County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services
 - ▶ StarVista
 - ▶ Four cities: South San Francisco, Redwood City, Daly City, San Mateo
- ▶ Each city has their own clinician, embedded in local law enforcement



Goals & Objectives

- ▶ Improved outcomes for behavioral health crises
- ▶ Increased access to appropriate resources
- ▶ Increased and improved training and collaboration between BHRS and law enforcement staff
- ▶ Strengthened relationships between law enforcement, behavioral health service providers, and the community

Desired Outcomes

- **Effective response to community members in mental health crisis**
- **Reduced contact between individuals with behavioral health issues and the criminal justice system**

Protocols

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- Clinician takes calls involve a **behavioral health crisis**
- Officer will first assess the scene for **safety**
- Clinician **stages nearby** & joins when it is determined safe
- Clinician provides **de-escalation and support services**
- May involve a 5150 hold or referral for treatment

Dispatcher Responsibilities

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- **Dispatchers first dispatch officers, then Clinician**
- **Dispatcher may consult with on-duty Patrol Sergeant if no behavioral crisis but CWCRT may be beneficial**
- **Clinician may self-dispatch**

Officer Responsibilities

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- **First ensure safety**
- **May request Clinician**
- **If appropriate, will assist the Clinician in engaging**
- **If there is no crime, goal is a “pass off” to Clinician**
 - **If there is a 5150 detention, officer writes a report**
- **If there is a crime, officer has investigative responsibility**

Clinician Responsibilities

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- **Notify Dispatch when on- or off-duty**
- **May self dispatch**
- **Stage nearby until scene is safe**
- **Research mental health information & resources**
- **Conduct mental health screening and assessment**
- **If transportation is required, arrange through medical transport or other means**

Decision-Making Authority

For issues involving safety, SSFPD Officer has final say

If issue involves a crime, officer and Clinician will work together to reach agreement on action

For issues that do not involve a crime, the clinician has final say



- If not reached, on-duty Patrol Sergeant or Watch Commander should be contacted
- SSFPD has final say

Other Team Guidelines

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Provide training to SSFPD, with Training Unit

Work with Homeless Outreach Team

Serve as a resource to other City departments

Other duties as assigned

Collaborate with SSFPD staff, other City departments, public agencies, non-profit organizations, etc.

Timeline

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Dates	Activity
November 15-19	Training with BHRS and StarVista
November 22-December 7	Training with SSFPD
December 8, 2021	Program launches
Fall, 2023	Pilot program ends

Meet the Clinician

Mika Celli

- **Licensed Clinical Social Worker** / Masters in Social Work
- Experience treating **mental health disorders, eating disorders, and dual diagnosis**
- Experience in **outpatient** and **residential** treatment
- Uses a variety of **therapeutic approaches & techniques**
- Excited to **lead** this **groundbreaking** program

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